

Big Brothers/Sisters Looking for Mentors

Big Brothers Big Sisters is a national organization that has been reaching out to children for the past 100 years. In 1973 the Gallatin County office opened and personnel have been working in local communities for 33 years. The mission of Big Brothers Big Sisters of Gallatin County is to help children reach their potential through professionally supported, one-on-one relationships. We serve communities of Gallatin County and have satellite offices in Ennis and West Yellowstone. In addition to our traditional community based matches, we offer mentors programs in area schools. High School students in Belgrade and Bozeman are mentors to children at Monforton School, Gallatin Gateway and Belgrade grade schools. America Reads is another mentor program in Belgrade and is in partnership with RSVP. In 2005, 612 children were a part of our program in Gallatin County. While many have benefited today there are 59 kids waiting to be matched with a Big Brother, Big Sister, or Big couple. If you know of a child who would benefit for our program or would like to make a difference in a child's life, please contact Big Brothers Big Sisters at (406) 587-1216. You can also visit our website at www.bigh Brothers Sisters.org for more information and our application procedure.

Note to Leaders:

At the April 4-H Council Meeting a recommendation was made for a grant to the 4-H Foundation requesting money for start up kits for new clubs. These kits would include flags, a gavel, and a banner with the pledge written on it and a tote bag to store it all in. We were wondering how many other clubs needed these items. Please call the Extension Office at 582-3280 and let them know which items you would like so we can look at our budget and see what we can do or if we need to write another grant to try to get all clubs to have the same general supplies. Thanks for your help on this and thanks most of all for all you do as a Leader – 4-H would not exist without you!!!

Ag Communications Scholarship

Applications are now available online for the first annual Ag Communications Scholarship, presented jointly through Agri-News, Stockman Bank, Western Livestock Reporter, and Northern Ag Network. As many as three scholarships totaling up to \$4,500 will be awarded in May to graduating high school seniors planning to attend a college or university with the long-term goal of working in ag communications. Preference will be given to students from ag backgrounds who want to serve rural people in their careers. A printable version of the application is available online at www.cattleplus.com. Deadline is May 15.

Eagle Mount

Eagle Mount would like to thank the 4-H clubs in the area for their community efforts and for those who have made a donation. We would like to invite you to be a part of our upcoming Western Rendezvous, June 10, 2006 at Eagle Mount. This is a family fun event that will be starting at 4 pm, children will enjoy the Little Cowpoke's Carnival, which will include a climbing wall, inflatables, carnival games, face painting, and lots of other stuff that kids love. As in the past, we'll be cookin' up some fun with our signature event sponsored by Murdoch's Home and Ranch Supply on Saturday night – the annual whole hog barbecue, the silent and live auctions, and dancing to the smooth country sounds of Montana Rose.

Eagle Mount is a private nonprofit 501(c)(3), charitable organization that is dedicated to providing recreation for children and adults with physical and/or mental disabilities and for children with cancer. In addition, Eagle Mount also provides emotional support and encouragement for participant's families. Since the founding of Eagle Mount in 1982, the organization has developed four main programs, they include: the Ski program, Aquatic Therapy program, the Therapeutic Horseback Riding program and the Big Sky Kids Cancer Camps. As well as having these programs, Eagle Mount has gone above and beyond this by having smaller programs such as cross country skiing, ice skating, adaptive golf, horticulture, kayaking, fishing and Saturday Night Out; a program designed for children with disabilities to spend one evening a month socially interacting as well as respite time for the participant's family.

Of course, none of this could be done without our 1,700 volunteers and countless donations from individuals and community organizations and businesses. Eagle Mount wants to invite you to be a part of the action by either volunteering at the Kid's Carnival or creating a carnival activity to be played by children at the carnival. If you are interested please contact Regina Demis at 586-1781. We appreciate your support and we look forward to seeing you at the Western Rendezvous.

